

**BOARD/COMMITTEE:** Steele Farm Committee

**MEETING DATE:** February 20th, 2025

**TIME:** 7:01 pm

**PLACE:** Zoom

**ATTENDEES:** Christopher Hydak (Chair), Fred Waugh, Catie Coyne, Joe Ferguson, Andy Bauer

**Non-Board Member Attendees:** David McKiernan (Select Board Liaison), John Fallon

**1. Approve minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Catie motioned to approve. Andy seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**2. Finance**

Christopher presented a summary of the funds available to the Steele Farm Committee (Kangas Trust, Ice House Fund, Farmhouse Phase 3, Revolving Fund). Overall picture is that all funding sources are in good shape and that ongoing projects are financially sound.

**3. Farm Maintenance**

**a. Christmas Tree Maintenance**

On hold until March.

**b. Burning brush piles**

Fred is planning to do this in the near future to take advantage of snow cover.

**c. Haying Contract**

The town is drawing up a long-term contract for mowing and haying for all relevant Town properties, including Steele Farm.

**d. Old Milk House concrete removal**

No update.

**e. Other**

No other business.

**4. Building Maintenance**

**a. Ice House Painting**

On hold until March.

**b. Barn Organization**

- i. Blanchard theatre props: Fred still needs to contact the school to see whether they are interested in the remaining props.
- ii. Call DPW for remaining trash disposal: no update.

**c. Steele Farm House Phase III Status**

Christopher talked to Susan DiLorenzo, who offered to help oversee renovations. David suggested that Michael Johns could also help.

**5. Old business**

**a. Capital Plan**

- i. Parking Lot Status: Christopher talked to Trustees of Reservations. They are interested in helping—they have provided guidance for similar projects on other properties. Trustees suggested that crushed gravel might be an option but that noted that the project should also include water management. Trustees also suggested talking to Heritage Foundation, who has

experience with similar projects. The committee discussed the need for an engineering scope for the water management aspect of the project. All agreed that it would be inadvisable to stripe individual parking spaces in the parking lot.

**b. Handbook**

No progress since last meeting.

**c. Camping Policy**

No progress since last meeting. Andy noted that the committee needs to decide first on policy objectives. Christopher and John noted that the camping policy, like all SFC policies, must be approved by the Select Board.

**d. Garbage Cans**

No update.

**e. Steele Farm - Hidden Treasures – May**

The current plan is for Steele Farm to participate in the Freedom's Way [Hidden Treasures event](#) during the week of May 12-18, with an open house 2-4 pm on May 18. Phase III contractor believes that work should be done in time for this event. John and Christopher will discuss next steps—John just received the Hidden Treasures application from Freedom's Way this week.

**6. New business**

None at this time.

**7. Next meeting date**

7:00 pm Thursday, April 10 at the barn.

**8. Adjournment**

Andy motioned to adjourn, Fred seconded. All in agreement. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.